

## **Virginia Board of Pharmacy**

### **Pharmacy Interns as Pharmacy Technicians Pharmacy Technician Ratio**

For the purpose of gaining practical experience to meet requirements for becoming a pharmacist, a registered pharmacy intern is by law allowed to perform tasks restricted to pharmacists provided they are directly monitored by a pharmacist. When a pharmacy intern is engaged in obtaining required practical experience hours, to be used either by the college of pharmacy or submitted to the Board on an affidavit, the pharmacy intern is not counted in the pharmacist to pharmacy technician ratio. For example, one pharmacist could be supervising a pharmacy intern for experience and up to four pharmacy technicians at the same time.

The Board has determined that properly registered pharmacy interns may also act as pharmacy technicians without being registered as such during times when they are not gaining practical experience. Pharmacy interns when acting as pharmacy technicians, shall be considered part of the 1:4 pharmacist to technician ratio.

Pharmacy technician trainees performing technician tasks in a pharmacy, are considered to be acting as pharmacy technicians and as such, are included in the 1:4 pharmacist to technician ratio. Except for the administration of drugs or devices, a pharmacy technician trainee enrolled in a training program for pharmacy technicians may engage in acts pursuant to Virginia Code § 54.1-3321(A) for the purpose of obtaining practical experience required for completion of the training program, so long as such activities are directly monitored by a supervising pharmacist.